



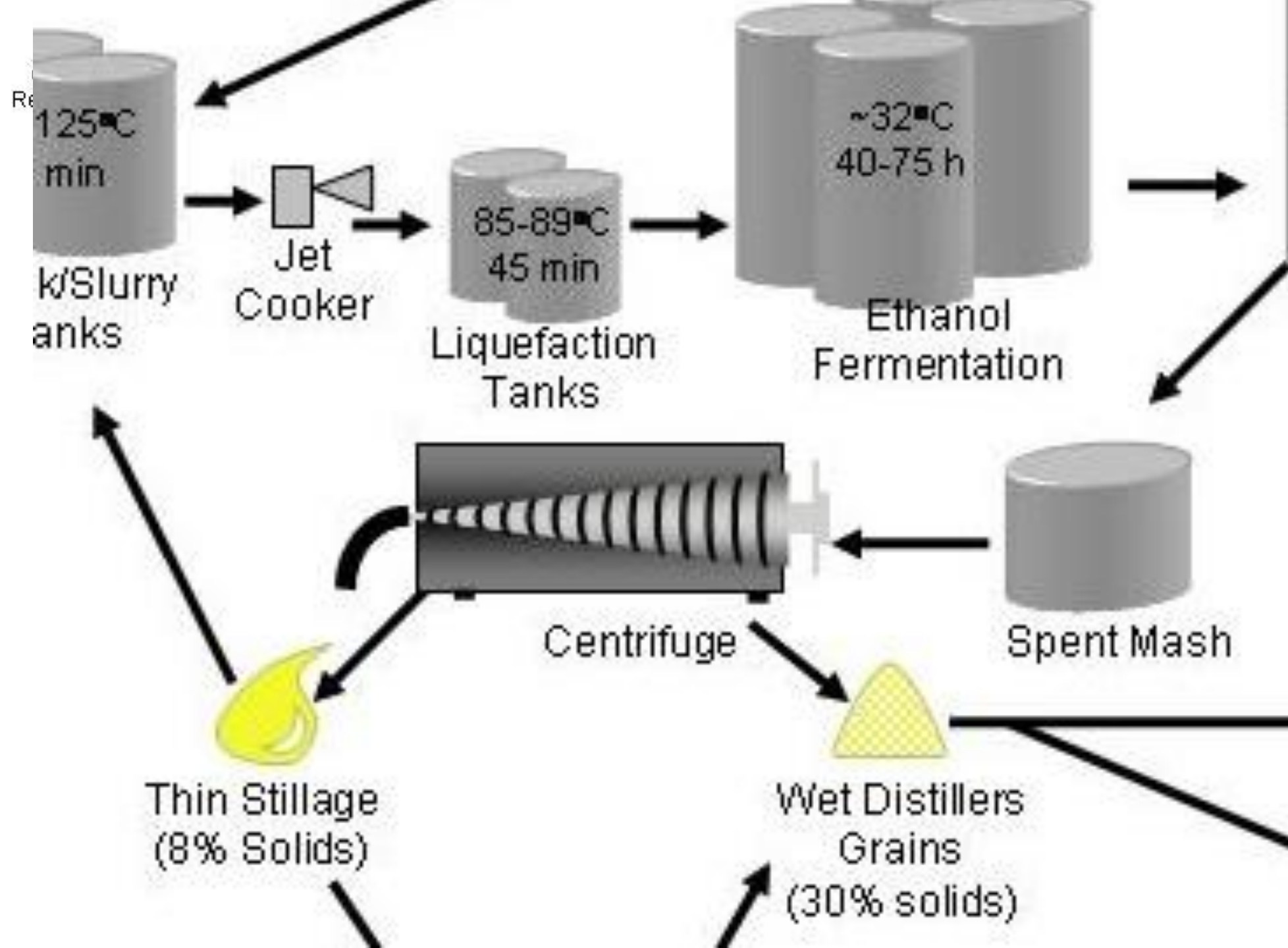
# **From Whole Stillage to Steak: Spent Grains for Livestock Feed**

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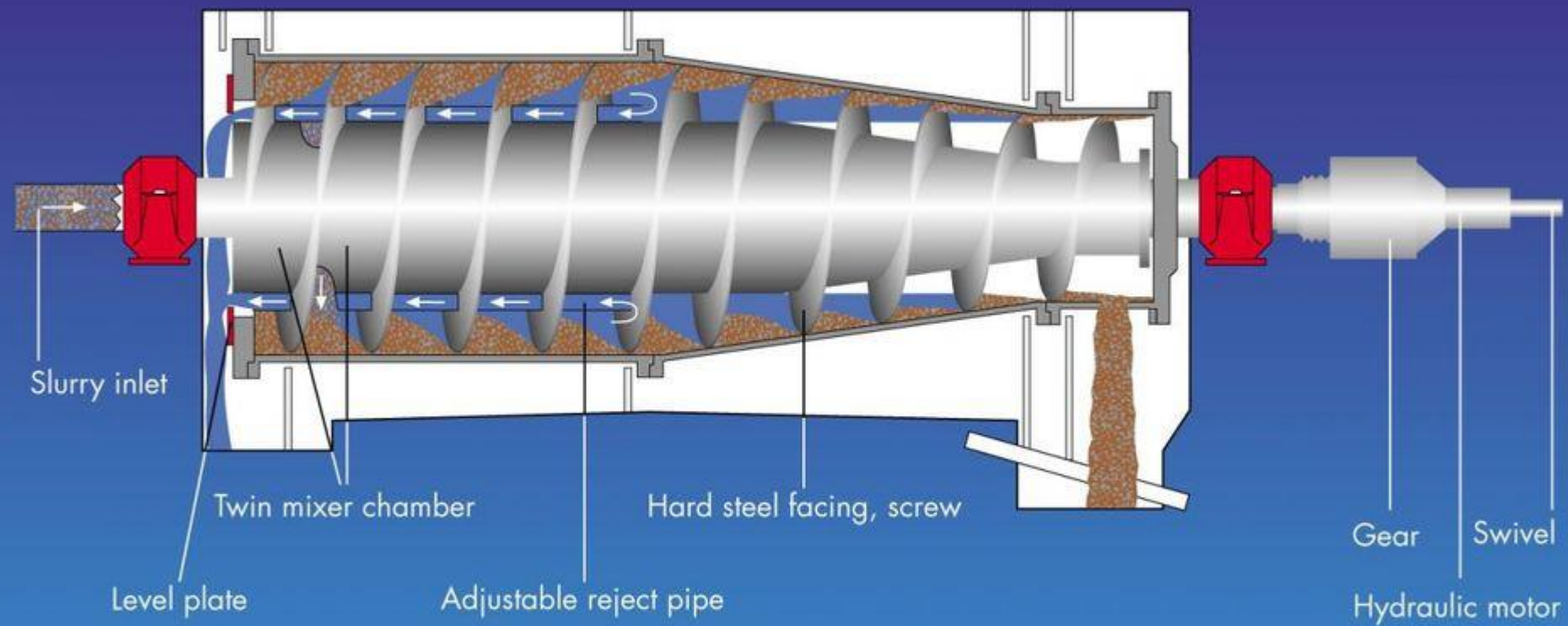
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## Decanter centrifuge



# Thin Stillage Still Present

- AFTER screwpress or centrifuge = Wet Grains + Thin Stillage
- Thin Stillage high BOD
- Evaporate to Condensed Solubles then added to wet grain
  - Drum Dryer for Dried Distillers
- Biodigestor for thin stillage?

# Dewatering & Drying Options / Processes

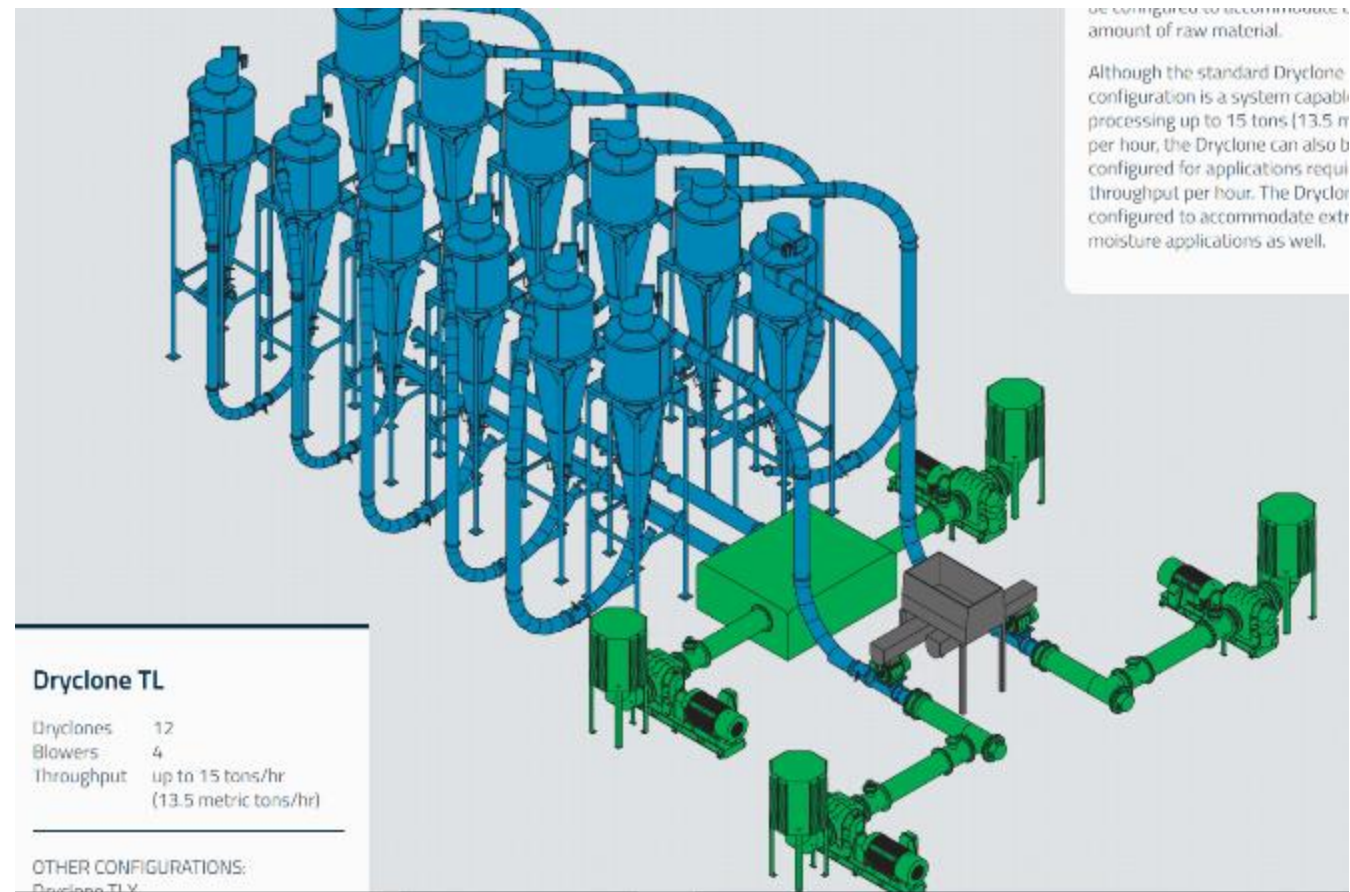
- Screw press
- Centrifuge
- Belt press
- Extruders
- Drum dryers
- Evaporators
- Sonic
- Superheated steam
- Others

Limited energy efficiency data in research

Screw press < Centrifuge

# Pulverizing Air Dryer – Recently Seeking DDGS

- Non-thermal drying
- Lower energy
- No heat damage to grains
- Minimum volume?
- Throughput? 15-350 T/hr





# Selecting a Drying Process

- Initial Cost
- Consider maintenance
- Energy costs / Efficiency
- Throughput
- End moisture level / Product Stream



# Analysis of Various Slop Products

| Item, %DM       | Thin | Settled | Whole | Evaporated |
|-----------------|------|---------|-------|------------|
| Protein, %      | 32.5 | 31.9    | 29.6  | 30         |
| Fat, %          | 15   | 12.8    | 9.9   | 14.4       |
| Fiber, %        | 5    | 6.4     | 7.4   | 4.4        |
| Ca, %           | 0.25 | 0.21    | 0.25  | 0.13       |
| P, %            | 1.25 | 1.06    | 0.62  | 1.13       |
|                 |      |         |       |            |
| Total Solids, % | 4.0  | 4.7     | 8.1   | 16         |
| Water, %        | 96   | 95.3    | 91.9  | 84         |
| No. Samples     | 10   | 11      | 5     | 2          |



# Composition Varies by Grain source

|        | Wheat         |                   | Barley        |                   | Corn          |                   |
|--------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
|        | Thin Stillage | Distillers Grains | Thin Stillage | Distillers Grains | Thin Stillage | Distillers Grains |
| Ash    | 8             | 4                 | 10            | 4                 | 7             | 5                 |
| EE     | 14            | 4                 | 16            | 6                 | 9             | 10                |
| NDF    | 34            | 74                | 32            | 80                | 13            | 45                |
| ADF    | 4             | 22                | 8             | 31                | NA            | NA                |
| CP     | 46            | 26                | 37            | 15                | 19            | 30                |
| Starch | 2             | 2                 | 1             | 1                 | 25            | 8                 |
| NSC    | 28            | 7                 | 38            | 4                 | NA            | 29                |

# Stillage = Slop & Feeding Problems Occurred

- 1942 Garrigus & Good state 2 common mistakes when feeding slop
  1. **Failure to use other feeds to provide a balanced ration**
  2. **Hauling slop too far such that the cost makes it too expensive**
- They recommended the following
  1. **½ lb / 100 lb body weight of forage / hay**
  2. 3-6 lbs of grain offered to increase dry matter intake
  3. Yellow ear corn for vitamin A & bloat reducing effect of the cob
  4. White corn < 3 months
  5. Free-choice limestone (2-3 oz/d)
  6. Not more than 3-4 gal / 100 lb live weight gave farmers best results

# Feeding Slop



<https://youtu.be/U10D9TDYtfs>

# Growing Steers Thin Stillage

|                              | 0           | 2           | 4           | 6.7         |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>ADG, lb</b>               | <b>3.5</b>  | <b>3.3</b>  | <b>3.7</b>  | <b>3.5</b>  |
| <b>Basal Diet DMI, lb</b>    | <b>18.7</b> | <b>16.5</b> | <b>17.2</b> | <b>14.3</b> |
| <b>Thin Stillage DMI, lb</b> | <b>0</b>    | <b>0.9</b>  | <b>2.2</b>  | <b>3.7</b>  |
| <b>Thin Stillage % DMI</b>   | <b>0</b>    | <b>5.2</b>  | <b>11.3</b> | <b>20.2</b> |
| <b>Total DMI, lb</b>         | <b>18.7</b> | <b>17.4</b> | <b>19.4</b> | <b>18.3</b> |
| <b>Gain:Feed TDMI</b>        | <b>5.3</b>  | <b>5</b>    | <b>5.3</b>  | <b>5</b>    |


8 gal

- DM from Stillage Exchanged w/ Basal Diet
- No Detrimental Impact on Animal Performance

# Cattle Performance on Whole Stillage

|  | Thin Stillage           | Water                   |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Steers grazing crested wheatgrass</b> |                         |                         |
| Fluid Intake, gal/d                      | <b>12.7<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>7.6<sup>b</sup></b>  |
| ADG, lb                                  | <b>3.08<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>1.98<sup>b</sup></b> |
|  |                         |                         |
| <b>Steers fed growing diets</b>          |                         |                         |
| Fluid Intake, gal/d                      | <b>6.3</b>              | <b>6.0</b>              |
| ADG, lb                                  | <b>3.52</b>             | <b>3.52</b>             |
| Gain:Feed (linear effect)                | <b>0.3</b>              | <b>0.2</b>              |
| <b>Steers fed finishing diets</b>        |                         |                         |
| Fluid Intake, gal/d                      | <b>7.1</b>              | <b>7.1</b>              |
| ADG, lb                                  | <b>3.52</b>             | <b>3.08</b>             |
| Gain:Feed (linear effect)                | <b>0.19</b>             | <b>0.15</b>             |

# Composition of Energy ETOH Products



| Feed    | DM %  | CP %  | Nem,<br>Mcal/cwt | Neg,<br>Mcal/cwt | Ca % | P % | S % |
|---------|-------|-------|------------------|------------------|------|-----|-----|
| CDS     | 30-50 | 18-35 | 100-125          | 69-89            | 0.07 | 1.8 | 1.6 |
| Wet DGS | 30-35 | 30-35 | 100              | 68               | 0.05 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| Mod DGS | 40-50 | 30-35 | 100              | 68               | 0.05 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| Dry DGS | 90    | 28-32 | 100              | 68               | 0.04 | 0.8 | 0.7 |

Based on several sources including company literature, National Research Council, and United States-Canadian Tables of Feed Composition.

- Today fat not being extracted from bourbon derived distillers
- Sulphur levels generally lower = lower risk of toxicity from bourbon source



# Research Update – Fed Daily Open Troughs



# General Considerations

- Fat content can limit feeding rates
  - 3-4% added fat level
  - Ask for feed test (de-oiled or full-fat)
- Moisture levels can potentially limit Dry Matter Intake
- Settling of slop grain particles = Recirculation / Stirring

# Acidity concerns

- Slop pH typically  $\sim 4$  = slightly acidic (lactic acid + other VFAs)
- North Carolina research with potato cannery waste (lower pH) = tooth decay, rumen tissue concerns, & lower growth rate
- Longer Slop sits = lower pH potential if residual fermentable substrates
  - POINT – Feed it fresh or BUFFER
- Consider feeding a buffer

# Buffers

- Common Buffers include:
  - Calcium Carbonate (limestone)
  - Sodium Bicarbonate
- Alkalizer raise pH
  - Magnesium Oxide
- Consider a 3:1 mixture of Bicarbonate:MagOx
- Feed buffer at rate of 0.25-0.5 lb/hd/d immediately at feeding

*Can also add limestone to slop tank on truck*

# Growing Steers Fed Whole Stillage

|                 | Trial 1 |          |         | Trial 2 |          |         |
|-----------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|----------|---------|
|                 | Urea    | Urea/SBM | Urea/WS | Urea    | Urea/SBM | Urea/WS |
| ADG, lb/d       | 2.8     | 3.0      | 3.0     | 2.8     | 2.8      | 2.8     |
| DM Intake, lb/d | 17.7    | 18.7     | 18.9    | 20.1    | 20.4     | 21.2    |
| F:G             | 6.3     | 6.3      | 6.3     | 7.1     | 7.3      | 7.7     |

Note: Intake of Whole Stillage was ~ 1% BW as-fed or about 1.2 gallons = ~ 0.8 lbs

Effective SBM replacement

# Limiting Stillage to 3% Fat Supplement Level

Lb Whole Stillage as-fed / gallons as-fed

| Intake, lb DM/d | Lb Fat Added | 3% Added Fat @ 10% Fat | 3% Added Fat @ 15% Fat |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 14              | 0.42         | 60 lb / 6.7 gal        | 40 lb / 4.4 gal        |
| 18              | 0.54         | 77 / 8.5               | 51 / 5.7               |
| 22              | 0.66         | 94 / 10.5              | 63 / 7                 |
| 26              | 0.78         | 111 / 12.4             | 74 / 8.3               |
| 30              | 0.90         | 128 / 14.3             | 86 / 9.5               |

Assumes 7% DM in Whole Stillage  
Assumes 9 lb/gal in Whole Stillage

Dry Distillers Grains with 10% Fat  
14 lb DMI / 0.42 lb Fat supplement  
4.7 lb As-fed DDGS  
~ 10:1 Exchange for Stillage : DDGS



# General Feeding Recommendations

- Adjust mineral program to high Calcium, no Phos
- Up to 40% of diet DM for low Sulphur product
- Mindful of moisture content of total ration as inclusion rates increase, especially for slop
- Consider handling / storage / transportation expenses

# NUTRITIONIST'S POINT OF VIEW

- HIGH quality protein & energy FEEDSTUFFS
- Local advantage for BEEF & ruminant industries
- Can be fed to many classes of ruminants
- Appropriately balance TOTAL diet & LIMIT amount fed

# Questions?



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